

## Naval Academy Tragedies

### Recollections of Times When Pistols Settled Affairs of Honor.

(New York Herald.)

There rests in a New York cemetery close to the haunts of trade the dust of a young man one of whose acts made his name immortal in the navy, but who died an object of charity, though not of charity grudgingly bestowed.

A young man cast off by his country was Midshipman Charles G. Hunter of the United States navy, who won the sobriquet of "Alvarado" Hunter because he dared capture an enemy's town and fortress without orders.

But the dishonor the government had placed upon an officer whose brave act official dignity could not acknowledge was not the Nemesis that followed the young midshipman through an eventful but unhappy life.

#### Victims of the "Code."

The pistol shots that rang out that Sunday threw the two principal cities of the country—New York and Philadelphia—into a ferment of excitement, stirred naval circles, became a national incident and resulted in executive action. Yet strangely enough, the two young men who faced each other on the bank of the little stream just south of the Delaware circle in March 3, Sunday to settle an affair of honor were not the original parties to the quarrel which resulted so tragically, but were drawn into it in an endeavor to effect a settlement of the difficulty.

Miller was a young lawyer of much prominence in the Quaker City and Hunter, then only 21, was a young man of special commendation from his superior officers in the navy and seemed destined for a notable career.

The duel grew out of a trivial incident. Henry William Griffith and Dr. Dillion Drake, two society men of Philadelphia, in company with some friends, sauntered into a billiard parlor at Third and Chestnut streets on the afternoon of Friday, Feb. 17, 1890, and Drake, unprovoked by an implied insult, began to quarrel with Griffith. Before Griffith in the face. Before friends could interfere Drake had severely whipped his companion. "That evening a message was sent to New York, that Passed Midshipman Charles H. Durfee of the United States navy asking him to come immediately to Philadelphia. Durfee arrived on Saturday morning, and the next day carried a challenge from Griffith to Drake, who refused to entertain any message.

"I will have no affairs of honor," said Drake, with a contemptuous smile. "Tell him he is beneath the notice of a gentleman."

"Is that your answer?" demanded Durfee.

"It is," replied Drake. "Take your letter back to him."

#### Forcing a Fight.

Barring with indignation Durfee rode out and met the challenger Sunday morning Philip P. Voorhees of the navy, who sent him back to Drake with insistence that satisfaction be given to Griffith for the insult.

"I refuse to accord a meeting to a man who has placed himself beyond the pale of recognition," retorted Drake laughingly.

"But you were the assailant," asserted the officer with some warmth.

"Very true, but I hit him not because of the billiard game, but because he wrote a letter to my brother, Dr. Drake, that was derogatory to his fiancée, and that on the very day of his marriage."

Durfee left in hot anger, declaring that he would post Drake as a coward, and that brought the young lawyer, Miller, into the quarrel. The following day the attorney issued a challenge from Drake to Durfee, but Lieutenant Hampton Westcott, of Durfee's vessel, refused to permit the midshipman to depart, until Drake had given satisfaction to Griffith.

"I shall never put myself on a level with that degraded individual until he makes apology for the wrong done my brother, the doctor, and his bride," was Drake's ultimatum.

News of the controversy had spread among the naval officers at New York and Philadelphia, and there was sharp criticism of Durfee because he had not accepted Drake's challenge, despite the fact that the attorney had issued a challenge from Drake to Durfee, but Lieutenant Hampton Westcott. So, to clear Durfee of the imputation of cowardice, some friends in New Brunswick, N. J., wrote to Miller, the attorney, to demand that the whole matter be referred to a committee, whose decision should be final. To this Miller responded that, as Durfee had not accepted Drake's challenge, he and Drake looked upon the incident as closed.

The affair would doubtless have ended there had not the attorney, Miller, demanded the letter written from New Brunswick and went in to see the attorney because of the refusal of the lawyer to hand it over.

A few days later the New Brunswick letter was printed and Hunter demanded immediate satisfaction. Miller disclaimed any responsibility for the publication of the letter, but the explanation was not accepted, and on March 3, Lieutenant Westcott bore a letter to Miller. The attorney again insisted that he had no connection with the publication of private correspondence and declined to attempt the challenge.

Three days later Hunter posted Miller as a coward, concluding his declaration with the gratuitous assertion that Philadelphia lawyer was a liar as well as a poisoner. This rapid fire of epithets stirred Durfee to action, and he sent an acceptance of Drake's challenge, but that action was society retorted that an adversary who had waited to screw his courage to the sticking point would not be accorded the honor of meeting with gentleman. Miller quickly took up Hunter's challenge and sent his acceptance by Lieutenant Edward Byrne, an intimate friend, and Westcott was deputized to arrange with Byrne the time and place of meeting. It was agreed that the duel should take place in Delaware, a short distance below the boundary, on the morning of the next day, and that besides the seconds, each duelist should be represented by one friend. For some reason the combatants did not leave Philadelphia until nearly noon on Sunday.

#### The Tragedy.

Fearing arrest, the party hastily left Hunter and drove at a rapid gallop the post road, through Marcus Hook and halted at the bridge over Naam's

creek. The meeting place, a short distance from the road, was soon selected. The paces were marked off and the positions of the duellists marked with stones, then the instructions as to the method of firing were given. Not a word had passed between the principals.

"Gentlemen, are you ready?" came the question.

Each duelist assented.

"Fire—one—two—"

The last word of the count was lost

in the report of the pistols, which were fired so nearly together that the separate reports could scarcely be distinguished.

Miller turned toward his seconds; his face was deadly pale; his pistol dropped from his hand; he placed one hand over his breast, then fell heavily to the ground.

Hunter advanced toward the fallen man, and in a loud voice that was filled with emotion, cried: "Gentlemen, I assure you that I had no enmity toward that man. His blood must rest upon the hands of others who have dragged him into their quarrels. Is he badly wounded, doctor?" he asked with evident trepidation.

"He will not live five minutes," was the reply. "You put the bullet square

ly into his breast." Kneeling about the dying man the little group, filled with varying emotions, watched the life of the young lawyer quickly flow out.

"It would give me life if I could restore that man to life," cried Hunter, as he saw the dying gasp of his victim.

A consultation was held, and it was decided that Hunter, Westcott and Durfee should leave the state before the result of the duel was known, and a few minutes later a carriage carrying the naval officers rolled down the road toward Wilmington, then his seconds boarded a vessel bound for New York.

The duel sent a thrill of excitement throughout the country, and so great was the indignation that on Saturday,

March 27, Mr. Moore of Beaver county, offered a resolution in the house of representatives of the Pennsylvania legislature requesting President Andrew Jackson to strike the name of Passed Midshipman Charles G. Hunter from the roll of the navy. This was forwarded by the governor of the state, and on the day after its reception John Branch, secretary of the navy, wrote to the president recommending that not only Hunter, but Byrne, Westcott and Durfee be court-martialed. John Branch of Virginia was the ancestor of Midshipman Branch, whose death in a fictitious duel is now the subject of inquiry.

The father of Miller personally wrote to President Jackson in the interest of Hunter, saying that he did not regard him as guilty of his son's death, but

that his life had been sacrificed to the absurd code of honor which was then maintained in the naval service. Hunter remained in the service, but the death of the young lawyer always haunted him, and it was alleged that some of his reckless acts of bravery were for the purpose of courting death.

#### The Capture of Alvarado.

During the Mexican war Hunter was placed in command of some shore forces from the squadron, and, without instructions, stormed the town of Alvarado and the Mexican forts, capturing all of the positions of the enemy. For this act, brilliant as it was, on the grounds that it disarranged the plan of the commander, he was subsequently court-martialed and, in 1885, he was dismissed from the service.

Short of his laurels, stripped of his naval insignia, he found his way to New York and finally was taken to St. Joseph's hospital, where, poor and broken in health through dissipation, he died. He is reported to have said to one of the attendants:

"My life has been wrecked by the sight of that little creek in Delaware—killed by my pistol shot—and a man I had met only twice before we stood facing each other that Sunday morning. Had I missed him, or had he killed me, much sorrow would have been saved."

But the fatal error of this young officer could not altogether eclipse the fact that he was brave and honorable, and a man who has watched his career, and whose heart prompted him to do so,

placed a tombstone over his grave to attest this truth.

**RUSSIAN PROVERBS.**  
(St. Louis Post-Dispatch.)

Rogues are the last of trades.  
Without cheating, no trading.  
A debt is adorned by payment.  
Every fox praises his own tail.  
A good beginning is great in his own bag.  
Trust in God, but do not stumble yourself.  
If God doesn't forsake you the pigs will not take us.  
Go after two wolves and you will not catch even one.  
The deener you hide anything the sooner you find it.  
Be praised not for your ancestors but for your virtues.

# THE LAST AND BIGGEST WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Finds this Great Establishment Better than Ever Equipped to Promptly, Satisfactorily and Economically

Supply Your Holiday Requirements.

UTAH'S MOST POPULAR STORE.  
ESTABLISHED 1864

**T. Auersbach & Bro.**  
ONE PRICE TO ALL NEVER UNDERSOLD

### XMAS PILLOW SHAMS.

The most acceptable household present of all is a pair of Pillow Shams. Note this week's excellent offerings:

All \$1.50 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	54c	All \$2.50 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	\$1.49
All \$1.75 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	\$1.10	All \$2.75 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	\$1.80
All \$2.00 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	\$1.23	All \$3.50 Pillow Shams, on sale this week, per pair	\$2.30

ALL KID GLOVES PACKED IN FANCY CARTOONS.  
**Holiday Gloves for Ladies' and Children.**

WE ARE OFFERING FOR YOUR SELECTION A MOST COMPLETE STOCK OF SERVICEABLE DEPENDABLE KID AND FABRIC GLOVES SUITABLE FOR ALL OCCASIONS AT WONDERFULLY ATTRACTIVE PRICES.

KID GLOVES AT 6c A PAIR. 200 dozen 1-clasp best \$1.00 grade Kid gloves, all sizes, a shipment just received, colors are brown, tan, mode, red, black and white; are on sale at 6c a pair.

GOLF GLOVES AT 15c A PAIR. Golf gloves in ladies' and children's sizes, neat and pretty patterns, in a good 35c grade; the sale price, all sizes, 15c a pair.

TREFOURSE KID GLOVES AT \$1.50. The variety of colors in this celebrated line is the best and prettiest ever shown; all sizes of this standard 2.00 glove on sale at \$1.50 a pair.

GOLF GLOVES AT 25c A PAIR. Excellent 50c grades, in the prettiest fancy and plain colored Golf gloves, all sizes; on sale this week at 25c a pair.

GOLF GLOVES AT 45c A PAIR. Our entire line of 50c and 75c Golf gloves, and all varieties, is superior to any ever shown in the city, including every desirable fancy style and all plain colors, all sizes; go on sale at 45c a pair.

ELBOW LENGTH EVENING GLOVES. \$1.50 Silk Gloves, elbow length, in black and white; on sale at 89c.

\$1.25 best quality sheer elbow length gloves, in black and white; on sale at \$1.29.

\$3.00 Suede Kid gloves, in black, white and light colors; elbow length; on sale at \$2.25.

\$3.75 Glace Kid gloves, in black and white, elbow length; on sale at \$2.75.

### SILKS FOR GIFTS.

A beautiful Dress or Waist pattern from this exquisite stock of silks, will be a very acceptable gift.

HOLIDAY SALE OF BLACK AND COLORED SILKS IN WAIST AND DRESS PATTERNS.

BLACK PEAU DE SOIE waist patterns, regular price \$3.40 and \$5.00; holiday sale price, per pattern, \$2.76 and \$3.16.

BLACK PEAU DE SOIE DRESS patterns, regular price \$12.75 and \$18.75; holiday sale price, per pattern, \$10.35 and \$11.85.

### CLOTHING

Will be on the Shopping List of People Who Give the Helpful Sort of Gifts.

Every woman is eagerly planning for appropriate gifts for her father, sweetheart or husband, or perhaps all of them. These are intended as suggestions and everyone is entirely acceptable to the average man.

Do not buy until you have seen our line of HOLIDAY SUSPENDERS—These SUSPENDERS ARE ATTRACTIVE to the eye, having the most BEAUTIFUL DESIGNS IN STERLING SILVER and 18-CARAT GOLD-PLATED BUCKLE, that can be engraved. Best imported FRENCH SILK WAISTS, each pair inclosed in PRETTY XMAS BOX. Handsomely decorated; will go from \$3.00 to per pair.

CHILDREN'S OVERCOATS—The NEWEST and MOST BEAUTIFUL NOVELTIES in THIS LINE—IRISH PRIZE, CHEVIOTS, TWEEDS and MELTONS, sizes 2 to 8 will go at \$4.50 to \$5.00.

BUSTER BROWN SUITS, DESIGNED BY THE GREATEST ARTISTS, THE TYPE THAT TOUCH THE HIGHEST WATER-MARK OF EXCELLENCE in the ART OF CLOTHES-MAKING. AN ENDLESS VARIETY OF COLORS AND PATTERNS, sizes 2 to 8, will go at \$7.15 to \$7.50, per suit.

YOUNG MEN'S SUITS, THE KIND PREFERRED BY THOSE WHOSE TASTE IS UNQUESTIONED—BROWN AND GRAY MIXED CHEVIOTS, ALSO AN EXCELLENT LINE OF IMPORTED SERGES IN BLUE AND BLACK, sizes 14 to 30 years, regular price \$12.99 to \$16.99, will go at \$9.15 to \$10.00, per suit.

NECKWEAR—THE LATEST EFFECTS in PATTERNED and COLORED TIES—All of the MODERN STYLES, will go at 75c to \$1.00.

### ALL DOLLS.

AT SPECIAL SALE PRICES. We have made broad plans for Doll selling this week. Our stock is enormous, but every doll must be closed out before Saturday night, and here are the prices to bring the desired result.

Dressed Dolls. A line of neatly Dressed Dolls, regular 25c sellers; on sale at 19c.

Practical 35c Dressed Dolls, a great variety of them; on sale this week at 25c.

A nobby line of 50c Dolls, in the best value ever shown at that price; on sale at 39c.

All our 65c and 75c Dolls, on sale at 50c.

Large line of \$1.00 and \$1.25 Dolls; you get choice of a large variety.

Fifteen dozen \$1.50 Dolls, completely dressed; a large variety of them on sale at 99c.

THE BEAUTIFUL KESTNER JOINTED DOLL AT THE FOLLOWING REDUCTIONS: \$1.50 size, on sale at 99c.

\$1.75 size, on sale at \$1.29.

\$2.00 size, on sale at \$1.95.

\$2.25 size, on sale at \$2.75.

\$2.50 size, on sale at \$4.00.

\$2.75 size, on sale at \$4.50.

\$3.00 size, on sale at \$5.50.

\$3.50 size, on sale at \$6.75.

EVERY DRESSED DOLL IS GREATLY REDUCED, AND WONDERFUL BARGAIN VALUES IN ALL KID GLOVES FROM THE CHEAPEST TO THE HIGHEST.

Tailor-Made White Linen Waists. Made extra full, entire from side pleated, fancy stock collar, button down front; regular \$4.50 value, at \$2.98.

Eiderdown Lounging Robes. In all prevailing shades, comfortable garments, with large sailor collar, finished with gridle at waist, special price at \$10.50, \$8.95, \$6.00, and \$4.25.

Dressing Sacques, suitable for Xmas gift, a grand assortment to choose from, in eiderdown, German flannel or fleeced material, prices \$2.45, \$1.75, \$1.25, \$1.00 and \$0.75.

200 long kimono, made of fine quality, fleeced flannel, very handsome Oriental design, new Japanese sleeve, finished with plain border, all sizes, worth \$2.25. As Xmas special, for Monday only \$1.25.

### EXTRA SPECIAL FOR MONDAY

200 long kimono, made of fine quality, fleeced flannel, very handsome Oriental design, new Japanese sleeve, finished with plain border, all sizes, worth \$2.25. As Xmas special, for Monday only \$1.25.

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**Ready-Made Garments As XMAS GIFTS**

As a practical suggestion and as a help to those hunting for a useful present, the following items should be full of interest. These prices mean new records in coat and suit and waist selling.

Our \$10.00 Kersey Coats in black brocade and castor, all sizes, strictly tailored, lined throughout, a handsome garment, marked down to \$5.00.

50-inch Ladies' Coats in Oxford gray mixtures, made in manly style, patch pockets, velvet collar, turnback cuff, lined to waist, sold up to \$15.00, at \$7.50.

All Wool Kersey Coats, 44 inches long—colors black, brown and castor, made in popular loose overcoat style, satin lined, a special offering at \$9.75.

44 to 50-inch Kersey Coats, plain Empire style in tan, castor, red, green, navy and black, one-half satin lined, no better coat sold, at \$25.00 than this, we offer Monday at the remarkably low price \$15.00.

ALL LADIES' TAILORED SUITS At Special Prices.

Handsome Waists of cashmere, brilliant and nun's veiling, in tan, brown, navy, white and black, tucks and pleats in front, some button front, others back; extra special \$2.45.

Tailor-Made White Linen Waists. Made extra full, entire from side pleated, fancy stock collar, button down front; regular \$4.50 value, at \$2.98.

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**Just What You Want To Give Everybody, Like The Sum in The Toyland Song, "THIS IS HARD TO DO"**

the Se-lection of the Right Person.

Once Selected, Once Decided On

The Actual Purchasing is a Small Matter, and

Remembering this

We Offer Sug-

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of Prices. Hun-

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dreds of Magnifi-

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tical Articles, Suit-

able for Gift-Giving

at Special Prices

That are the Trade-

Compelling Sort.

Get Your Share of

The Marvelous

Savings.

Why Not Some Thing In FANCY LINENS?

TEMPTING GIFTS AT SPECIAL TEMPTING PRICES. AND FANCY LINENS MAKE A RICH AND ELEGANT GIFT—A GIFT THAT HAS A VALUE.

BATTENBERG DOYLIES, value 18c; this week \$12c.

Teneriff and Battenberg Doilies, size 7x11; value 22c; this week 17c.

Round and square Battenberg Doilies, in either all-over Renaissance patterns or with Linen Centers, 9-inch size; value 25c, at 19c.

All 5c Teneriff and Battenberg Doilies, 9 and 12-inch sizes, go this week at 32c.

**A Few Suggestions on What to Give For Men and Women That Umbrella**

You were thinking of is just the thing to give "Him" or "Her," especially when you've the chance of selecting at these low prices:

100 26-inch umbrellas all with newest nobby handles, for ladies, Paragon frame, steel rod and a fast black, lustrous Gloria silk cover, with taped edge, best \$2.00 value, on sale \$1.25.

36 umbrellas, for men and women, values \$3.00, on sale, each \$2.95.

36 umbrellas, newest, prettiest handles, values up to \$1.00, sale price, \$2.95.

50 elegant pure silk umbrellas with beautiful handles, best \$7.50 value, the sale price \$5.00.

**Smokers' Table.** A present highly appreciated by every man who smokes, all made of highly polished hard wood:

\$2.50 tables, this week \$1.65.

\$4.00 tables, this week \$3.00.

\$4.50 tables, this week \$3.50.

\$6.50 tables, this week \$4.75.

\$7.50 tables, this week \$5.00.

**Beautiful Onyx Top Tables** At lower prices than ever quoted

\$9.00 onyx tables, on sale at \$6.50.

\$10.00 onyx table, on sale at \$7.50.

\$11.50 onyx table, on sale